IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kunihiko HORIKAWA et al.

Conf. 9587

Application No. 10/577,774

Group

Filed April 28, 2006

Examiner

INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND METHOD, COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 28, 2006

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 10 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.